

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**Placer County Water Agency**

**FERC Project No. 2079  
Middle Fork American River Project**

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE  
APPLICATION FOR NEW LICENSE**

Pursuant to 18 CFR § 5.5 (2007), Placer County Water Agency ("PCWA") hereby notifies the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("Commission or FERC") of its intention to file an Application for New License for the Middle Fork American River Project, FERC Project No. 2079 ("Project"). PCWA requests that all correspondence and service of documents relating to this notification and subsequent proceedings be addressed to:

David A. Breninger, General Manager  
Placer County Water Agency  
P. O. Box 6570  
Auburn, CA 95604  
Telephone: (530) 823-4860  
Facsimile: (530) 823-4960

Edward J. Tiedemann  
Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann & Girard, P.C.  
400 Capitol Mall, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Telephone: (916) 321-4500  
Facsimile: (916) 321-4555

The following information is provided consistent with the requirements of 18

CFR § 5.5 (2007):

***Licensee's Name and Address:***

Placer County Water Agency  
c/o David A. Breninger, General Manager  
P. O. Box 6570  
Auburn, CA 95604

***Project Number:***

The FERC Project Number is 2079.

***License Expiration Date:***

The current Project license expires on March 1, 2013.

***Unequivocal Statement of Intent.***

Placer County Water Agency intends to file an application for a new license for the Project utilizing the Commission's Integrated Licensing Process.

***Type of Principal Works Licensed:***

The Project consists of a series of two large dams and principal storage reservoirs (French Meadows and Hell Hole), two smaller dams and regulating reservoirs (Middle Fork Interbay and Ralston Afterbay), three small dams and diversion pools (South Fork Long Canyon, North Fork Long Canyon and Duncan Creek), five tunnels, five powerhouses (French Meadows, Hell Hole, Middle Fork, Ralston and Oxbow) and associated powerline and ancillary facilities.

***Location of the Project (By State, County, and Stream):***

The Project facilities are located in the Middle Fork American River watershed, at elevations ranging from approximately 5,300 feet to approximately 1,100 feet. All Project facilities are located in Placer County except a portion of the Ralston Afterbay Dam which is located in El Dorado County, California. The French Meadows Reservoir is located near the Granite Chief Wilderness at the headwaters of the Middle Fork

American River. Water impounded in French Meadows Reservoir (which includes water diverted from Duncan Creek) is conveyed through the 2.6-mile French Meadows-Hell Hole Tunnel to French Meadows Powerhouse and released to Hell Hole Reservoir which is located on the Rubicon River. Hell Hole Reservoir also impounds water from the upper reaches of the Rubicon River, a major tributary that flows into the Middle Fork American River at a much lower elevation. Located at the outflow of Hell Hole Dam, the small Hell Hole Powerhouse generates power as water is released through the dam to the river below. From Hell Hole Reservoir, water is transported through the 10.4-mile Hell Hole-Middle Fork Tunnel to the Middle Fork Powerhouse. Diversions from South Fork Long Canyon and North Fork Long Canyon contribute to flow in this tunnel and can augment storage in Hell Hole Reservoir. Water is released from the Middle Fork Powerhouse into Middle Fork Interbay, which serves as a diversion pool for the intake to the 6.7 mile Middle Fork-Ralston Tunnel. Water is transported through this tunnel to the Ralston Powerhouse, from which it is released into Ralston Afterbay. Water moves through this afterbay into the 0.08 mile Ralston-Oxbow Tunnel and then to the Oxbow Powerhouse. From the Oxbow Powerhouse, water is released into the Middle Fork American River approximately 29 miles upstream from Folsom Reservoir.

***Installed Plant Capacity:***

The total nameplate generating capacity of the Project is 223.7 megawatts. Nameplate generating capacity of the Project powerhouses is as follows:

French Meadows Powerhouse -----15.3 MW  
Hell Hole Powerhouse ----- 0.7 MW  
Middle Fork Powerhouse -----122.4 MW

Ralston Powerhouse ----- 79.2 MW  
Oxbow Powerhouse ----- 6.1 MW

***Name and Mailing Address of Entities Listed in 18 CFR § 5.5(b)(8):***

(a) The county in which the Project is located and in which any Federal facility that is used or to be used by the Project:

The Project is located primarily within Placer County and, to a small extent, in El Dorado County. The mailing addresses are:

Placer County	El Dorado County
Board of Supervisors	Board of Supervisors
175 Fulweiler Avenue	330 Fair Lane
Auburn, CA 95603	Placerville, CA 95667

(b) Each city or town in which any part of the Project is located, and in which any Federal facility that is used or to be used by the Project is located:

The Project is not located within the city limits or boundary of any incorporated community.

(c) Each city or town that has a population of 5,000 or more people and is located within 15 miles of the existing Project dams:

There are no towns with a population of 5,000 or more located within 15 miles of any Project dam.

(d) Each irrigation district, drainage district, or similar special purpose political subdivision in which any part of the Project is located, and in which any Federal facility that is used or to be used by the Project is located:

The Licensee is not aware of any irrigation districts, drainage districts or similar special purpose political subdivisions in the immediate vicinity of the Project.

(e) Each irrigation district, drainage district, or similar special purpose political subdivision that owns, operates, maintains, or uses any Project facility or any Federal facility that is or is proposed to be used by the Project:

No Project features are owned, operated, maintained or used by any irrigation district, drainage district or similar special purpose political subdivision. No Federal facility is used or to be used by the Project.

(f) Every other political subdivision in the general area of the Project that there is reason to believe would likely be interested in, or affected by, this notification:

There are no other political subdivisions in the general area of the Project. However, the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District ("SMUD") owns property upstream of the Project and is likely to be interested in this notification.

SMUD's address is:

Sacramento Municipal Utilities District  
c/o James Shetler  
Assistant General Manager, Energy Supply  
P. O. Box 153830  
Sacramento, CA 95852-1830

(g) Affected Indian tribes:

The following Indian tribal contacts are believed by PCWA to potentially have an interest in the Project although no project facilities are located on any tribal lands:

Colfax-Todd Valley Consolidated Tribe  
Tribal Chairperson  
P. O. Box 4884  
Auburn, CA 95604

El Dorado County Indian Council  
P.O. Box 564  
El Dorado, CA 95623

Miwok Tribe of the El Dorado Rancheria  
Tribal Chairperson  
P. O. Box 1284  
El Dorado, CA 95623

Shingle Springs Rancheria  
Tribal Chairperson  
P. O. Box 1340  
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Todd Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation  
P.O. Box 1490  
Foresthill, CA 95631

Tsi-Akim Maidu  
Tribal Chairperson  
548 Searls Avenue  
Nevada City, CA 95959

United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria  
Tribal Chairperson  
575 Menlo Drive, Suite 2  
Rocklin, CA 95765

Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California  
Tribal Chairperson  
919 U.S. Highway 395 South  
Gardnerville, NV 89410

Respectfully Submitted,

PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY



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Lowell M. Jarvis  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
Placer County Water Agency  
P. O. Box 6570  
Auburn, Ca 95604

Tel: (530) 823-4860  
Fax: (530) 823-4960

December 6, 2007